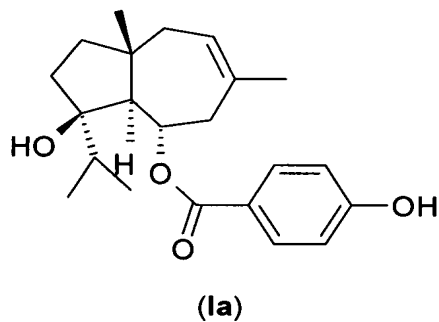


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

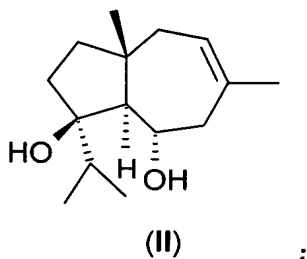
LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) A process for the preparation of ferutinine (**Ia**)

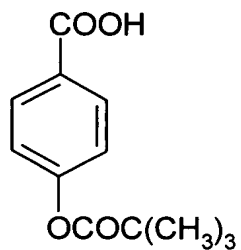


which comprises the following steps:

- a) extraction of daucane esters from *Ferula spp*;
- b) basic hydrolysis of daucane esters to give jaeschkenadiol (**II**)

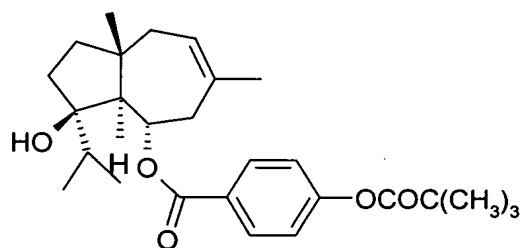


c) esterification of jaeschkenadiol (**II**) with *p*-pivaloyloxybenzoic acid (**III**)



(III)

to give *p*-pivaloylferutinine (**IV**)



(IV)

; and

d) hydrolysis of *p*-pivaloylferutinine (**IV**) to ferutinine.

2. (original) Process according to claim 1 wherein daucane esters are extracted from *Ferula communis*.

3. (original) Process according to claim 1 wherein daucane esters are extracted from *Ferula hermonis*.

4. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1 wherein daucane esters are extracted with supercritic carbon dioxide at temperatures ranging from 35 to 65°C and pressures ranging from 200 to 260 bar.

5. (original) Process according to claim 4 wherein the temperature is 45°C.

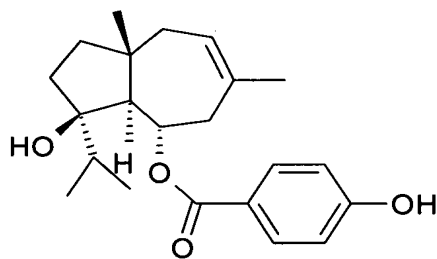
6. (previously presented) Process according to claim 4 wherein the separation is carried out at temperatures ranging from 25 to 45°C and pressures ranging from 45 to 55 bar.

7. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1 wherein steps c) and d) are carried out in sequence without recovering compound (IV).

8-11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A method of preparing a cosmetic composition, comprising:

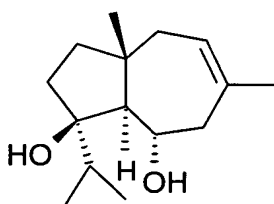
adding an effective amount of ferutinine (Ia)



(Ia)

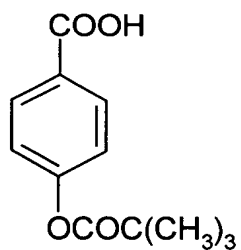
to an acceptable excipient for a cosmetic composition, wherein,  
the ferutinine (Ia) is prepared by a process that  
comprises the following steps:

- a) extraction of daucane esters from *Ferula spp.*,
- b) basic hydrolysis of daucane esters to give  
jaeschkenadiol (II)



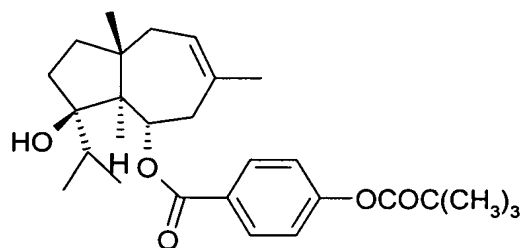
(II)

- c) esterification of jaeschkenadiol (II) with *p*-  
pivaloyloxybenzoic acid (III)



(III)

to give *p*-pivaloylferutinine (IV)



(IV)

d) hydrolysis of *p*-pivaloylferutinine (IV) to ferutinine.

13. (canceled)